THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

MILLENNIAL STAR.

[ESTABLISHED 1840].

"*And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.*"—DAN. 7: 27.

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GENERAL CONFERENCE.

APOSTLES SPEAK OF THE GROWTH OF ZION, DUTIES OF THE SAINTS, AND THE WORK ABROAD.

(Continued from page 277).

SECOND DAY.

At 10 a.m. the choir and congregation sang, "All hail the glorious day." Prayer was offered by Elder E. D. Woolley of Kanab Stake. The choir and congregation sang, "For the strength of the hills we bless Thee."

ELDER REED SMOOT,

of the Council of Apostles, was the first speaker. He endorsed the statement of President Smith and others that Zion is growing. Many who have come to attend the conference, had made personal sacrifice to do so. He specially referred, in this connection, to those from the Mexican mission. In that field there recently had been a number of additions to the Church. Such also was more or less the case wherever the Gospel has a foothold.

Quotations were read from the revelation given through the Prophet Joseph Smith. They related to the greatness of the work of God, and the blessings which accrue from faithfulness to its interests.

This work is of such a character that if its destruction were possible it could have been destroyed in its infancy. It was, however, here to stay. The time is not far off when men and women connected with it will be wanted as teachers of the Gospel in every part of the world. This people will yet be an acknowledged light unto the world. As we increase in knowledge the op-

position to the kingdom of God will be the more determined. Our people, on account of what they have accomplished in the field of colonization, are united in different parts of the country for this purpose. They have shown their ability in this direction, and their work is being appreciated wherever it is known.

A prediction made by a prominent lady in the east, forecasting the future growth of the "Mormon" people, was read. It is a remarkable statement, and has a foundation for its utterance. In case it be fulfilled, the speaker said, the country would be benefited by such results. Prosperity and the enjoyment of freedom would be among its chief results.

No people have more faith in God than do the Latter-day Saints. They have marvelously increased in this direction, having witnessed the repeated evidence of divine care, exercised in their behalf. As a whole, there is no people on the earth who adhere more strictly to virtue than this people.

Elder Smoot spoke in favor of preparation for missionary work on the part of Elders who are called to go into the world to preach the Gospel. He referred to the good effects, in this connection, of appropriate education in the Church schools.

Elder Smoot spoke upon the gratification which results from the possession of children, which are a heritage from God. He exhorted parents to look after their religious and moral well-being; teach them the truth and cultivate love and affection toward them that there may be affinity in the family circle. He concluded with an appeal to the people to have implicit faith in God, who possesses unlimited power to deliver His people from every disadvantageous situation.

APOSTLE RUDGER CLAWSON,

of the Council of Apostles, followed, saying in substance: President Lorenzo Snow was worthy of praise for the activity of his life, and he would doubtless be delighted if he had the opportunity of meeting in this conference and witnessing the further marvelous growth of the people. The providences of the Lord over His people had been wonderful, and proved that whenever He gave commandments to His people, He opened the way for the fulfilment. The promise to reveal the Priesthood before the coming of the dreadful day of the Lord, had been fulfilled, and this Priesthood would protect the people from the dangers of that day. Its restoration to the earth in two grand divisions, the Aaronic and Melchisedek, in the year 1829, marked the fulfilment of this prediction. The Melchisedek Priesthood had, as its province, the exercising of authority in spiritual things, the Aaronic in temporal affairs. Without this authority the Saints would be weak indeed; and unless they recognize and respect this authority they will still be weak. There was no living soul exempt from the authority of this Priesthood. Without it, the power of godliness could not be made manifest, and no man could see the face of God and live.

The speaker enunciated the various orders of the Priesthood, showing how all ages and conditions of men are provided for in its various organizations. All duties being so clearly defined, there was no reason for confusion regarding the work required of every man. Particular stress was laid on the fact that the duties of one order of Priesthood would not interfere with those of another,

and no confusion need occur. The great responsibility resting upon the presidents of stakes and Bishops of wards, in their presidency over the various organizations, was emphasized; and the question would naturally arise, where must the responsibility be placed for neglect of duty on the part of members of stakes and wards? It devolved, to a great extent on the presiding officers, who were expected to keep themselves informed on these various matters, and exhort all to a faithful performance of duty. As executive officers and supervisors, these officers should see that others do their duty, leaving the preaching of the Gospel largely to others.

ELDER ABRAHAM O. WOODRUFF,

of the Council of Apostles, was the next speaker. He read from section 39 of the Doctrine and Covenants, bearing chiefly on the Gospel of adoption into the kingdom of God, whereby men may become the sons of God. All the Saints should be missionaries to others, warning them against the evils prevalent in the world. None should wait for a special call to do this labor, but the precious words they have received should be freely given to those who are not acquainted with them. The light should not be hidden by anyone, but all should labor for the salvation of the souls of men. He read also from the 64th section of the Doctrine and Covenants regarding men's forgiveness of the sins of others. Not in justification of wrongdoing, but in the salvation, through kindness, of those who have sinned, should mercy be extended to wrongdoers. Particular attention should be given to those who are devoid of this faith, among whom are many of the children of the most faithful in the work of God. Many officials in the Church would doubtless come under condemnation for too great harshness toward the careless and indifferent. In some instances an earnest wish on the part of those who had wronged others to set matters right had been denied by the injured party, to his own condemnation. In some cases these grievances were standing in the way of the performance of duties in the Church, where one of the parties held a presiding position. The anxiety of the authorities of the Church, to save all the souls of men, should prompt, as well, the local authorities in their treatment of those who are in danger of going astray. Neglect of this principle of forgiveness would tend to disunion and dissatisfaction here and hereafter.

The speaker rejoiced in the marvelous work done by the Latter-day Saints in all the world, fulfilling the prophecy of Isaiah that the desert should blossom, and His people develop in strength and greatness. This was particularly manifested in the gathering and colonizing of the people, and help should not be held back from converts, by those who are already established in Zion; but the gathering of the people from abroad should be assisted and encouraged. This division of property and privileges would require some present sacrifice, but it would be followed by many blessings and great satisfaction.

Elder Woodruff paid a high tribute to Elders Heber J. Grant and Francis M. Lyman, for the work now being done in the Japanese and European missions, through the power of God and the assistance of the faith and prayers of the Saints.

ELDER JOSEPH E. ROBINSON,

president of the California mission, reported the condition of the mission,

He paid a high tribute to the liberality of the people in California, notwithstanding the fact that there is considerable indifference to the message of the Elders. Some six hundred souls had been added to the Church, and they had manifested great faithfulness in the various duties required of them. The spirit of gathering was strongly manifested among them, as also an anxiety to receive the blessings of the house of the Lord. The late visit of the choir, and the friendship of city and state officials, were of great assistance to the Elders in their labors in this mission.

The choir sang the anthem, "Light and Truth." Benediction by Elder Jesse N. Smith, of Snowflake Stake.

Afternoon Session.

At 2 p.m. the choir sang, "Glory to God on high." Prayer by Elder C. R. Hakes of Maricopa Stake. Singing by the choir and congregation, "Praise to the man who communed with Jehovah."

ELDER MATHIAS F. COWLEY,

of the Council of Apostles, addressed the conference. He suggested that it would be a good thing for those who attend this gathering, to make notes of the instructions given by the speakers. At least they should endeavor to retain them in their minds. The whole history of this work shows that the help of the world has not been needed to sustain it. The work, by its achievements, bears witness that it is from God.

Elder Cowley told of expressions made by men unfavorable to the Latter-day Saints, to the effect that the latter were sure ultimately to "reach the top," but they favored placing a hand upon them to keep them down as long as possible.

To be acceptable to God, the Saints must conform, as far as possible, to every requirement He has made or may make of them. He will, on that basis, give this people success not only in spiritual things, but likewise in matters that are of a temporal character. As we live near to God, so shall we be entitled to a greater degree of the Holy Spirit. There is nothing of a temporary character connected with the work of God. All His laws are eternal. The fault-finders, who treat lightly the teachings of the Priesthood, are in continuous danger. All who indulge in this sin have great need to repent. If they do not they will lose the Spirit of God and be left in darkness. He related instances where such results had ensued.

Evil ways creep in among us. Vile characters seek to lead the young to the practice of habits which lead to misery and death. There should be a greater awakening upon this subject, that the children of the Saints may be protected against temptation liable to lead them to destruction.

The speaker related his experience as a Teacher in the Church. In this capacity he and a company had visited the late President John Taylor. After the visitors had performed their duty—in teaching—President Taylor reciprocated by teaching them. Elder Cowley said that the statements expressed by Brother Taylor had made vivid impressions upon his mind and influenced him for good in subsequent life. The speaker dwelt for some time upon the importance of the duties and functions of the various offices of the Priesthood.

ELDER MARRINER W. MERRILL,

of the quorum of Apostles, was the next speaker. He believed this to be the largest conference ever held by the Church. Notwithstanding it had been a long time since he first joined the Church, he had not become weary of the work—his faith had not weakened. He had labored in various capacities of the Priesthood, and in each he had not felt that he was qualified to perform his duties. He knew this work to be of God, and Joseph Smith to be a Prophet. This testimony had always remained with him, because he always sought to do his duty in the Church. He thought that there is no other way of retaining this testimony of the Gospel.

We had been given credit during the conference of having done very well in respect to tithing and other duties. "But have we," asked the speaker, "done our best? Have we come up to the standard required of us?" The Lord expected us to pay our tithing and offerings in full. Were we to do our full duty in this respect there would be none among us who could not be fed. He observed, however, in passing, that what the poor generally needed from us was work—something for them to do.

He went on to discuss the oft asked question, "When shall I pay my tithing?" He thought that the easiest and best and most honest time is when we are paid for our work. If we are paid weekly, we should pay our tithing weekly; if we are paid monthly we should pay it monthly. It is not right to postpone it until the end of the year.

He had been pleased with many things done by the Saints—things that have been done in private. He had seen the prayers of the brethren and sisters answered as well as those of little children. The Lord had sent rain and snow in answer to the prayers of the people—prayers that have been offered up to the Lord in secret.

Elder Merrill spoke of the spirit of restlessness—desire to change locations—on the part of some of the Saints. His advice to such was to go under the counsel of Church authorities, and all would be well. He thought that it was a serious mistake to move away from the branches of the Church.

He referred to the work that we ought to do for the dead. We should look to this; for as surely as we meet each other here, we shall meet our friends who are dead, and we shall feel there that we have neglected our duties to them, if we do not seek for their salvation as well as our own.

ELDER JOHN W. TAYLOR,

of the quorum of the Twelve, next addressed the congregation. He said in substance: I have thought much about what President Smith said in the beginning that we are growing as a Church. This growth has been gradual and almost imperceptible, like the growth of a tree. He read from the book of Doctrine and Covenants, to the effect that our Savior received grace and power, not all at once, but gradually. Continuing, he said: The promise has been made us that we shall obtain a fulness of joy if we are faithful. But these will come to us only through the power of the Priesthood, and these powers can be exercised only upon the principles of righteousness. It is not sufficient to obey only a few of the commandments, like the young man who turned away from Christ because He said, give your riches to the poor and follow me.

If the Saints will keep the commandments of God, there will be no blessing withheld from them. He asked God's blessings on the conference.

ELDER HEBER J. GRANT,

of the Quorum of Apostles, was the next speaker. He had rejoiced beyond his power to tell, in the testimonies that had been borne. He was glad to meet with the conference and to add his testimony to the testimonies already borne.

He said that he had hesitated before asking to attend this conference, lest it might be misunderstood. Nevertheless, he was pleased that he had been given this privilege of attending conference.

He referred to the Japanese mission. In substance, he said: All the Elders whom he left in Japan were well. The two converts, who had been baptized, are meeting constantly with the Elders. One of these, previous to receiving the Gospel, had preached Bible doctrine to the people. I tried to discourage him from joining the Church, but he said that, though he did not understand fully the Gospel, he felt that he could learn its principles better after joining. I told him that he might be persecuted. But he answered that he could not die better than as a martyr for the truth. A great many have asked for baptism of us, but we have not encouraged them. I do not know whether these two men will remain with the truth, but I believe them to be honest at present.

Our time has been pleasantly spent. We have not done much traveling for pleasure.

It is marvelous how the Japanese get along. They work for such a small amount and do so much work. They are a very remarkable people. I feel that God will do a great work there—thousands of the people will yet, I feel, embrace the Gospel. The Lord has raised up for us many friends. One in particular, a very forceful writer among the Japanese, has taken the pains of collecting information concerning the history and doctrines of the Church, and written a book of about two hundred pages. This work, I feel, will do a great amount of good. He proposed at first to submit the doctrinal and historical parts to me, but later decided not to do this because it might be charged that I had told him what to write. The first chapter is entitled, "The Greatest Problem of the Age." There are ten chapters in all. The author is an educated man, well versed in several languages. I feel that God has touched this man's heart, and that it will do us a great deal of good. I suggested that he translate the book into English, and that I would be pleased to have it published in Utah.

I rejoice in the increase that has come to us through my mission to Japan. I rejoice in the work of God. I feel that I can sustain the authorities of the Church as they are constituted. I know that God lives and that we shall receive a glorious exaltation in His kingdom.

The choir and congregation sang: "Now let us rejoice in the day of salvation." Benediction by Elder Byron Sessions of Big Horn Stake.

[TO BE CONTINUED].

TRUE friendship is more like a tree than a structure. Full of vitality, slow of growth, sturdy in its nature, it comforts man by the refreshment of its shade, and nourishes him by the sustenance of its fruit.

THE NEWCASTLE CONFERENCE.

The Newcastle Semi-annual conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, was held in the New Assembly Rooms, Shields Road, Byker, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Sunday, May 4, 1902, President L. Sumner Pond, Jr., presiding.

There were present: Elders Joseph Eckersley of the Liverpool office; Marlon Van Cott of the London conference; Joseph Ririe of the Grimsby conference, Charles A. Hall, George P. Jones, Moroni Jessop, Joseph A. White, Wilford W. Snyder. Henry Bolingbroke, David Ririe, Hopkin B. Campbell, Orange D. Baker, William A. Montgomery, William T. Stewart and Leo. Pickett of the Newcastle conference.

Services commenced at 10:30 a.m. After singing and prayer the sacrament was administered. President Pond in a few remarks welcomed those present and then read the statistical and labor reports for the past six months. The general and local authorities of the Church were presented and unanimously sustained. Elder Eckersley occupied the remainder of the time, contrasting the Church of Christ with the other churches of the world; also spoke of the spirit of unity in the true Church.

The afternoon session commenced at 2:30. Elder Joseph Ririe spoke of the commission given to the Elders to preach the Gospel, and how if their teachings are obeyed people will be justified. Elder Van Cott followed and told how the Book of Mormon originated and what it purports to be. Elder Eckersley spoke of the harmony of the teachings of the Book of Mormon with those of the Bible, alluding to the visit of the Savior to the Nephite people, and what He taught the people of that nation.

At 6 p.m. the conference reconvened. Elder Hall showed the necessity of being obedient to the commandments of the Lord, even though they may seem too simple to be effective. He spoke also of how love was brought into the houses of those who embrace the Gospel and live in the light of its truth. The concluding address of the Conference was made by Elder Eckersley, who spoke of the position the people of God had always occupied in the eyes of the world. He said that the Latter-day Saints are at present more favorably looked upon than ever before. He spoke of the second coming of the Savior, and how only the truly faithful and obedient will be eternally exalted. Elder Eckersley explained the doctrine of baptism for the dead, and showed that this ordinance was well understood and taught in primitive times.

Besides the regular singing, Elders Campbell and White, Brother Lickess and Sisters Bird and Robinson sang, "Savior keep me near Thee," and "The Beautiful Country." The day was one of rejoicing and outpouring of the Spirit of the Lord. The remarks carried conviction to the hearts of many of the investigators present.

The Elders met at 82 Glenthorn Road, West Jesmond, at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, when they reported their labors for the past six months and received encouraging instructions from Elder Eckersley.

Wilford W. Snyder, Clerk of Conference.

A new subscription to the Star means possibly a family's salvation.

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR.

THURSDAY, MAY 8, 1902.

EDITORIAL.

PRESIDENT LYMAN'S RETURN.—After an absence of eighty-five days President Francis M. Lyman has completed his memorable journey to Africa and the Holy Land, returning to Liverpool on the 1st inst. In spite of the hardships of eastern travel President Lyman looks stronger and in better health than when he departed. The open-air travel in the warm countries, though tiresome at the time, has tanned his cheek and apparently been invigorating. When asked what the most pleasurable incident of the fascinating journey was, he responded with characteristic promptness, "Getting home." Certainly that is the sentiment of those who have been separated from him.

The readers of the STAR have been acquainted, in part, by the interesting letters published, with what has been seen and done. But though one followed with atlas in hand the clear descriptions, only a faint idea of the real experiences of the journey could be felt. Many important incidents were, of course, left out and many condensed. The inward feelings on seeing the land of promise, the land that once flowed with milk and honey, lying desolate, a surface of gray stones, where the erosion of centuries has torn away the mantle of soil and left the land bare and barren, could not be well transmitted to another. Pity and sorrow for the benighted inhabitants, many of them the children of Abraham, but so ignorant of their inheritance, so unready to accept redemption, was increased by mingling with them and seeing their wretchedness.

There were dangers in the journey and there were pleasures. The hand of the Lord in answer to fervent prayer upheld the brethren and led them out from perilous conditions. During the trip inland to Aintab, where on account of deep mud the carriage had to be abandoned and the journey continued through a wild country on jaded horses, the help of the Lord was plainly seen. It seemed also as if the Lord blessed the brethren many times with unexpected advantages that aided greatly to the interest and pleasure of their travels. And why should He not have done so, can He not interpose in seemingly minor things as well as in more important ones?

Of course all other experiences of the journey are as but a setting to the examination of the Turkish mission and the dedicatory prayers for the land and people. The Turkish mission, on account of the many languages, the different mixed races and the lack of freedom, is a hard one. Progress is made slowly, but nevertheless progress is made, and seekers after truth found. Prayers were offered under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit that the Lord

would redeem these lands which in ancient times were the scenes of so wonderful manifestations of His power. Jerusalem was once again dedicated to become holy ground, a gathering place for Israel and a home of prophets who shall speak forth the word of the Lord.

Rebuked.—Some time ago certain Protestant ministers in the United States issued against "Mormonism," a leaflet, in which they slanderously tried to stem the tide of our missionary success. A copy was sent by them to the *Freeman's Journal*, a Catholic publication, and Father Lambert made a caustic reply, in which the following occurs:

"Gentlemen of the mission boards, we understand you; we know your literature and your methods; we have no confidence in you; we cannot yoke with you against the Mormons; nor can we yoke with them against you. You are both alike in error and in antagonism to the Catholic church; with the difference that you are more meddlesomely so, more aggressively so and more offensively so than the Mormons are."

This well deserved rebuke should be remembered by those false shepherds who are so fond of calling "wolf, wolf!" for the sake of creating an impression of their own cleverness, mingled often with baser motives, and by so doing disarm themselves for real dangers to their flocks. If they could learn a little of what in bygone days was called the "Mormon creed"—to mind one's own business—they would be in a position to learn the higher lesson embodied in the second great commandment "Love thy neighbor as thy self." The *Journal*, in this article, speaks from its own standpoint; we endorse nothing of what it says. It is, however, consistent with itself and infinitely more honorable and Christian, than the leaflet that called it forth.

Late French Election.—Of all days in the week one would think Sunday the least probable to be chosen as an election day by a Christian nation. France, however, spent the last Sabbath in April as such. Possibly the thought that "the better the day, the better the deed" actuated. At any rate, according to the French papers it "does not seem to have caused any shedding of blood; here and there a few scuffles between warlike voters, a little hustling among excited voters at the polling stations—and this is all." This having been an extraordinarily quiet election one would conclude that the French were a little surprised that the inevitable disputes did not reach the point of bloodshed. Disregard for the Sabbath day has been, alas, bad enough on the Continent—and everywhere else for that matter—in the past; France seems to be leading in a new violation. Is it not possible that breaking of the commandment to keep holy the Sabbath day can bring as disastrous results to nations as come to individuals?

J. J. C.

President George Q. Morris of the London conference reports seven baptisms in his district during the last month with prospects of more in the near future.

Notice.—The secretaries of conferences will please notice that the statistical report has not been printed in the minutes of the Newcastle conference. All the statistics of the mission are carefully filed and are printed in the Star at

the end of the year. Although it is not necessary to report these statistics for the STAR, they should not be left out of the conference entirely but should be prepared and reported at the meetings as usual.

THE friends of Elder David O. McKay will be pleased to learn of his being appointed principal of the Weber Stake Academy at Ogden. Elder McKay spent two years in the British mission recently, presiding over the Scottish conference during the latter part of his mission. He returned nearly three years ago, and since then has been teaching in the excellent school that he is now called to direct. We hope that Elder McKay will attain as much success in his new calling as he did in his labors in this field.

ELDER ALEXANDER BUCHANAN, JR., who for the past thirty-four months has labored in the British mission is now released to return home. The first twenty-two months were spent in the Scottish conference, and the last year at the Liverpool office, where he has assisted in editing the STAR. Elder Buchanan's work has been of the most satisfactory kind, and it is with a feeling akin to regret that those who have become acquainted with the vigorous style of "A. B." see him leave. Elder Buchanan will spend three weeks in visiting Scotland, and intends sailing per s.s. *New England*, May 22nd.

ARRIVALS.—The following Elders arrived on the s.s. *Commonwealth*, May 1st, after a pleasant voyage: For the British mission—John C. Duncan, John McPhie, John W. Cameron, Salt Lake City; Earl Greenwell, Lewis J. Read, Herbert B. Foulger, Ogden; Leo Pickett, St. George; Joseph H. Cutler, Pocatello, Joseph L. Sanders, Rexburg, Idaho; John J. Ladle, Mendon; Alma G. Wayment, William T. Stewart, Warren; George E. Gibbey, Morgan; Edmund R. Berrett, North Ogden; David E. Rigby, Pratt; John W. Gardner, Goshen; Raymond H. Clayton, Provo. For the German mission- Rudolph Richenbach, Glenwood; Roswell C. Belnap, Henry A. Anderson, Ogden; Edward P. Kimball, Charles Clarence Neslen, Charles R. Pike, Franklin J. Chamberlain, Salt Lake City; Frederick O. Kotter, Brigham. For the Scandinavian mission—Clarence S. Nelson, Ogden; Peter M. Jenson, Huntsville; Niels Ericksen, Salem; Frederick E. Mitchell, Clinton. For the Swiss mission—William Henry Reeder, Ogden; Gottfried Brugger, Venice.

In the same company were the following who come to Europe as visitors: Professor Evan Stephens, Mrs. Annie Pitches, Mrs. Emma Arnup, Mrs. Mary Ann Simon, Rosa A. Toronto, Benjamin S. Wilson, Sarah Wilson, Christian H. Larson, Salt Lake City; Bishop George Munford, Beaver; Mary A. Larsen, Newton; Bishop James Taylor and wife, Annie D. Taylor, Ogden. Most of the visitors have come to gather genealogy. Professor Stephens, in company of President Willard Christopherson of the Christiania conference, will spend a few months in Europe for rest and in visiting of musical centers. Miss Toronto, in company of her brother Elder Albert Toronto, who has just finished a three years' mission in Germany, will travel extensively, visiting Italy in the south, and Sweden and Norway in the north.

APPOINTMENTS.—The Elders for Great Britain have been assigned to the

following Conferences: Herbert B. Foulger and Earl Greenwell, London; David E. Rigby and Raymond H. Clayton, Leeds; John C. Duncan, Alma E. Wayment and Lewis J. Read, Liverpool; John J. Ladle, Joseph L. Sanders and Joseph C. Cutler, Nottingham; William T. Stewart and Leo Pickett, Newcastle; Edmund R. Berrett, Sheffield; John W. Cameron and John McPhie, Scottish; George E. Gibby and John W. Gardner, Welsh.

Elder Roscoe E. Grover of the Leeds Conference has been called to preside over the Grimsby Conference.

Releases.—The following Elders have been released to return home per s.s. *New England*, sailing from Liverpool, May 22: Charles A. Hall, Newcastle; Raymond Thompson, Scottish conference.

Transfers.—The following Elders, who have been acting as conference presidents, have been called to labor as follows: Henry H. Blood, from Grimsby to London; Ernest Bramwell, from Manchester to London; Joseph J. Cannon from Stockholm, Scandinavian mission, to Millennial Star office, Liverpool.

Conference Notice.—The Semi-annual meetings of the Irish conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will be held in the Whitehall Buildings, Ann Street, Belfast, on Sunday, May 18, 1902, services commencing at 10:30 a.m., and 2:30 and 6:30 p.m. A general invitation is extended.

PRESIDENT LYMAN'S TOUR

The ninth and concluding letter comes from Rotterdam, Holland, under date of May 1, 1902, and is as follows: It is with a feeling of satisfaction that, after the extended and somewhat arduous journey which it has been my privilege to make in company of President Francis M. Lyman, I am able to report its successful termination. From start to finish it has been prosperous, much beyond our expectations at the commencement. Everything appears to have been shaped to our advantage and profit.

Our last letter was from Athens. Leaving that city by rail we had a pleasant ride of several hours to Patras. On the way not far from Athens are a few ruins of Eleusis, an ancient sanctuary of the Greeks where "mysteries" were taught which were the most enobling of any pagan worship of that nation. About midway across the Grecian peninsula a deep canal has been cut through the narrow isthmus connecting the Peloponnesus with the mainland so that the former is now an island. Just beyond that isthmus is Corinth a flourishing city of ancient Greece, where Paul founded a branch of the Church, to which his famous epistles were later addressed. Across the Gulf of Corinth to the north the snow-capped Mount Parnassos could be plainly distinguished. At the foot of this mountain was the ancient pagan sanctuary of Delphi. From Patras we departed per Austrian Lloyd steamer *Maria Teresa*, on which we had already traveled comfortably from Alexandretta, for Brindisi. The ride among the Ionian Islands and across the Adriatic Sea was delightful. Arriving at Brindisi safely on the morning of the 17th ult., we set foot on *terra firma* with a feeling of thankfulness that the sea travel of the trip, except for

the short passage of the English Channel, was completed. The voyage covering altogether 4,000 miles has been, in general, very pleasant, and President Lyman has been fortunately free from sea-sickness. The Mediterranean has maintained its good reputation. Yet with it all there has been a certain feeling of unrest on the water which dry land only could quiet.

Upon arrival at Brindisi we took train for Naples, and after an all-day ride through fertile fields, vineyards, and groves of olives, figs and other fruit-trees, we reached the picturesquely situated city on the shores of the beautiful Bay of Naples. From the villa-covered hills on the outskirts of the city an excellent view is obtained of the thickly populated coast. To the south rises the high, sharp peak of Mount Vesuvius, from which as the clouds cleared the smoke could be seen rising in volumes straight into the air. The lower part of the mountain is covered with forestry and cultivated fields, and many villages rest on its slopes. In spite of the catastrophes which have overwhelmed the settlements in the past through eruptions of the great volcano, it seems the natives will persist in occupying dangerous spots. During our short sojourn in Naples we spent a day in a trip to the crater of Vesuvius. A drive of fifteen miles was made by carriage up the mountain slope, around and through the various lava fields, of which the twisted and curled shapes preserved the form of the flowing lava as it had cooled. At the end of the carriage road is a wire-rope railway conveying passengers to within about three hundred yards of the crater, to which it is then necessary to climb up the steep side of the cone through deep volcanic sand. When we reached the brink of the crater and looked down into the clouds of heavy fumes boiling out, and listened to the tremendous rumbling and splashing of the molten mass away below, a feeling of awe seized us. Moving around to a more favorable spot, we were favored with a light breeze which lifted the smoke and revealed a wonderful, memorable scene. The yellow, sulphur-coated interior of the crater, some hundred yards in diameter at the top, slopes inward to a depth of about one hundred yards to the throat of the volcano. At that point we could see the bright red glow of the molten contents of the immense, natural cauldron. At intervals the red-hot liquid would be thrown into the air like spray with a heavy, explosive crash, and once it was thrown so high up the side of the crater that we began to get uncomfortable. To a person believing in the orthodox view of the place of consignment of sinners, this scene is a most vivid representation, and the thought of having such bodily torture should be enough to cause one to repent in sackcloth and ashes.

Naples is the largest city of Italy, containing about 550,000 inhabitants. Until 1860 it was the capital of the kingdom of Naples, after which it became a part of that of Italy. Its environs are of greater interest than the city itself. At some fifteen miles to the south of Naples lie the ruins of Pompeii to which we paid a visit. The famous remains, which have been in course of excavation during many years, are of great interest, presenting as they do, the scenes of a city of 2000 years ago. After the great eruption of Vesuvius in 79 A.D. whereby the town was completely buried and 2,000 persons perished, except for a few slight attempts nothing in the way of excavation was begun until comparatively recent times. The remains present a good idea of its former state. Several houses of wealthy, ancient inhabitants were shown us, which

are finely decorated with fresco paintings, sculptures, and ancient mosaics. In walking along the narrow, rock-paved streets one observes the ruts, which are worn deep into the pavements, and the deserted houses presenting impliments suggestive of the trades of those who had inhabited them. The Forum or place of assembly, the Basilica or court of justice, theaters, baths, etc., indicate the ancient conditions of prosperity. In the museum there are casts of bodies preserved from the time of the catastrophe, which show various postures as of struggling when death overtook them.

Our visit to Rome was one of the most interesting of the trip. We were agreeably disappointed to find the "Eternal City" progressive and modern, the second in size in Italy, and possessing fine, large business blocks. It is the capital of the kingdom, and the seat of the head of the Roman Catholic church. Its condition of to-day does not begin to equal the power and glory which it enjoyed in antiquity. Many ruins of ancient structures reveal to some extent its former prosperity. The city was anciently built on the famous seven hills near the Tiber, but with increase of population it was extended not only over those hills, but to the plain along the river and on the opposite bank, when at its maximum the city numbered almost two million inhabitants. The walls still standing mark its limits. The center of the city was formed by the Capitoline hill and the Roman Forum adjoining. The Temple of Jupiter, which formerly adorned the hill, has disappeared, but the place of meeting of the Senate remains. The remains of ihe Forum are situated in a small valley bounded by three of the seven hills. Besides the ruins of that structure there are many of interest and importance—the Temples of Saturn, Castor and Pollux, Julius Cæsar, and Vespasian, the Basilica Julia, the triumphal arches of Titus and Septimus Severus, the Palace of the Vestal Virgins, etc. The Forum was the general place of assembly, where orators would address the people. It was from a tribune at the end of the Forum near the Temple of Cæsar that Marc Antony delivered his famous oration over Julius Cæsar's body which so aroused the populace. At the base of the Capitoline hill was the Mamertine prison, of which the dungeons still remaining are covered by a church. We visited a dark, gloomy cell where Peter, Paul and famous political prisoners were at various times confined. The stone post to which Peter was chained is shown, and a small spring of water in the pavement was, it is claimed, miraculously caused to flow by the Apostle in order to baptize (?) his jailers. To the east of the Forum is the great Colosseum, and near by the Triumphal Arch of Constantine. The immense amphitheater, the largest theater in the world, was completed by Titus in 80 A.D. Of an elliptical form the building measures 205 yards in length on one diameter, and 170 on the other. It was 156 feet high, and accommodated 85,000 spectators. Its massive proportions are yet recognizable. Beneath the arena were dens and chambers for wild beasts, gladiators, etc. Many Christians and Jews met death there to gratify the savage pleasure of their captors. To the south of the place of the Forum rises the high Palatine hill, the beginning of the city traditionally by Romulus, and later the residence of the emperors. There are few remains of the palaces of Augustus, Tiberius and Caligula, but such as there are indicate the extent and grandeur of the imperial residences. The hill affords a commanding view of the entire city.

Farther to the south are remains of the large palace of Septimus Severus and the Stadium, and still farther scant ruins of the immense Circus Maximus, which is said to have accommodated 385,000 spectators.

Driving out to the Catacombs of St. Callistus along the Appian Way, we passed a small church erected on the spot where, according to tradition, the Savior appeared to Peter as he was fleeing from certain martyrdom. To his question of "Domine, quo vadis," the Apostle received the reply, "Venio iterum crucifigi," upon which he returned to the city to meet his fate. The Catacombs were the subterranean burial-places of the Christians, and later a refuge during persecution. The walls and ceilings of the entrances and various chambers are frescoed. The bodies were interred in the small recesses cut in the soft tufa stone, along both sides of the horizontal passages. Drawings of fish, anchors, etc., are quite frequent.

A very interesting visit was that made to the Church of St. Peter's across the Tiber. It is built in the form of a Latin cross measuring 232 yards on its greatest length, including the portico, and covering an area of 18,000 square yards—the largest and most imposing church in the world. Next in size is the Milan cathedral, while St. Paul's is the third. The area of St. Peter's is greatly surpassed, however, by that of the huge Palace of Justice in Brussels, which covers 30,000 square yards. In front of St. Peter's is a large open space flanked with colonnades forming a suitable fore-court to the great edifice. The interior is very richly adorned with beautiful variegated marbles, paintings, sculpture, mosaics, etc., to which the greatest artists of the Renaissance contributed. Under the great dome, 403 feet in height, is the high altar, at which the pope alone officiates, covered with a great bronze canopy supported by four massive spiral pillars. Beneath this altar is the so-called *Confessio*, reached by a marble stairway, where a brass chest is shown as that containing Peter's remains. The *Confessio* is surrounded by eighty-nine ever burning lamps. Near by is the bronze seated statue of the Apostle, the toes of the right foot having been almost worn away through the kisses of devotees. The tombs of most if not all the popes are in this cathedral.

The climax of our visit to Rome was the opportunity afforded us of seeing the head of the Roman Catholic church—Pope Leo XIII. Upon arriving at the Vatican one morning, expecting to visit the galleries there, we learned that the pontiff was to give audience and his blessing to a band of pilgrims from France and Belgium. By good fortune we were enabled to enter also, and obtained good places in the Sistine Chapel, which was crowded. The doors at the one end soon opened, and the pope entered in a large chair borne on the shoulders of attendants. As he was carried up the aisle the audience burst into deafening cheers, continuing until he was seated on the throne at the head of the chapel, surrounded by dignitaries of the church in purple and scarlet robes. As he passed very near us we gained a clear, full view of him, and saw a thin, pale, feeble, old man, yet with a bright eye and apparently alert senses. After a speech by a scarlet-robed dignitary, supposedly a cardinal, in behalf of the pilgrims, the pope received various clergymen and laymen on their knees to kiss his hand, after which he arose and uttered a few words in Latin, presumably in the nature of a blessing, with the right arm and two fingers extended. He was then carried out to his apartments, the stalwart

Swiss Guard in their antique costumes stationed along both sides of the aisle. The same day we visited the Vatican galleries, containing of especial note the fresco paintings of Raphael and Michael Angelo, those of the latter decorating the Sistine Chapel. The Vatican is the largest palace in the world, and is said to contain 11,000 halls, chapels and rooms.

After leaving Rome a short but profitable visit was paid to Venice, the "pearl of the Adriatic," where gondolas replace carriages and canals streets. It was a unique sensation to step from the railway station into one of those long boats, to ride down the Grand canal with its mediæval palaces at the water's edge on both sides, and to alight on the very doorsteps of buildings. The Piazza and Piazetta of St. Mark's bounded by the cathedral, the Doges' and royal palaces and other fine structures, the Rialto bridge and the bridge of Sighs principally attracted our attention. The Doges' palace, a building of the Venetian style, proved of much interest. It contains various council chambers fitted up with seats along one end and the sides, for the ancient government of the city and its colonies when it controlled the Mediterranean coast as far as Syria. The rooms contain frescoes by Tintoretto and others illustrative of the city's glory. From the palace the bridge of Sighs leads to a prison on the opposite side of a small canal over which condemned prisoners passed to confinement. The church of St. Mark, the patron saint of Venice, is very ornately decorated within and without with gilded mosaics which cover an area of 45,790 square feet. The front of the church is adorned with four bronze figures of horses, originally on a triumphal arch at Rome, but taken successively to Constantinople, to Venice, to Paris, and finally to Venice again. In the evening the Piazza presents a busy scene thronged with promenaders. Venice is now enjoying prosperity, though not such as in the 15th century, when the trade of Europe centered there. It numbers about 175,000 inhabitants. The city lies on three main islands and numerous small ones in the Lagune, two-and-a-half miles from the mainland, to which it is connected by the railroad.

From Venice we rode through the beautiful flat country drained by the Po river and over the rugged Apennines to Florence, the great city of mediæval art. The short time we were there was very enjoyably spent in visiting the cathedral, the Uffizi and Oitti galleries, and the Academy of Fine Art. These contain many master-pieces of the great artists of the Renaissance. In the last-named is the famous large statue of David by Michael Angelo. The Oitti gallery, a part of the royal palace, is very elegantly and richly decorated. Its collection embraces a profusion of great paintings by such masters as Raphael, Michael Angelo, Leonardo da Vinci, Titian, Murillo, Rubens, Van Dyck, and many others. Owing to the rain which fell almost incessantly during our stay, it was hardly possible to appreciate the natural beauty for which this fine city on the Arno river is noted.

After leaving Florence our route lay along the Arno to Pisa, where we visited the celebrated Leaning Tower, 179 feet in height and thirteen feet out of the perpendicular. It was there that Galileo made his experiments in gravitation. From Pisa to Genoa our route lay along the rugged Italian Riviera. Between Spezia and Genoa, a distance of fifty-six miles, there are ninety tunnels and the cost of that part of the road, we were informed, was

£4,000,000. Genoa is finely situated on hills overlooking the busy harbor and bay. It is the chief commercial city of Italy. From there our journey was continued by way of Turin, the former capital of Italy, situated on the plain of the Po river near the base of the Alps. It is a progressive city having rectangular blocks of houses, and containing many monuments of historic and artistic interest. Our route lay through the valley of the Dora river, among the snow-covered Alps, to the Mount Cenis tunnel, 4,163 feet above sea-level. The tunnel, which is eight miles in length, was ten years in building and cost £3,000,000, was traversed by the train in thirty minutes. Not far to the north is Mount Blanc.

After a ride of seventeen hours we reached Paris, the "parting of the ways." President Lyman's route led to England and mine to Rotterdam. Our eighty-five day's journey together has been most agreeable. 8,000 miles have been covered by sea and by land. The opportunity has been afforded us of seeing the heads of two of the most widely extended religious organizations of the world—the sultan of Turkey and the pope of Rome—as, also, the Roman patriarch of Jerusalem. Our itinerary has included travels in the lands of the great powers of antiquity—Egypt, the Babylonian Empire and Assyria, the Byzantine Empire, the Turkish Empire, Greece and Rome—and almost in the order of their civilization and supremacy. But, in connection with that to the Turkish mission, the most important visit was that to the Holy Land, the one land above all others of sacred interest to every believer in Christ. And especial attraction attaches to it for the Latter-day Saints on account of prayers of dedication and blessings pronounced upon it by the servants of the Lord in these as well as former days for a final heritage of the children of Judah. In every country visited a good understanding of the history as well as of the present conditions, manners, and customs, has been obtained. Besides the prayers on the Mount of Olives and Mount Carmel, Apostle Lyman has been inspired to bless the lands and peoples of Egypt, Greece, and Italy for the spread of the Gospel. It was through inspiration that the arduous journey was undertaken, and through the manifest blessings of the Lord it has been very successfully completed. I consider it a great privilege to have had the opportunity of accompanying President Lyman upon this important trip, which under any circumstances is of great profit and under these circumstances especially so.

SYLVESTER Q. CANNON.

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